



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	21-0003 February Winter Weather 2021
Date	February 13, 2021
Time	0900
Operational Period	February 12, 2021- February 13, 2021
Report Number	2

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
DDCs Active	1, 2, 6, 17, 20, 21 & 22

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: Another round of winter precipitation is expected today. Light snow will fall in the Panhandle and a wintry mix will fall from the Permian Basin into the Concho Valley/Edwards Plateau/Big Country. Accumulations should be relatively light but again, any ice accumulation on roadways will lead to problems.

After today it is looking like significant snowfall will begin in the Panhandle on Sunday and spread across most of the rest of the northern half of the state on Monday. Snowfall accumulations could occur as far south as IH-10 and freezing rain/sleet accumulations could occur across much of northern South Texas and Southeast Texas Sunday and Monday. Accumulations of ice in Region 3 cannot be ruled out.

On February 12, Governor Abbott issued a disaster declaration in all 254 counties in response to severe winter weather that is impacting Texas. The Governor is continuing to deploy state resources available to assist local officials in their response efforts, and has ordered the Texas State Operations Center (SOC) to expand its daily operations to 24-hours a day through the end of next week.

"Texas should heed the guidance of their local leaders and stay alert to changing weather conditions in their area," said Governor Abbott. "These resources will help us respond to this severe winter weather and keep our communities safe. The State of Texas remains in close contact with officials on the ground and will provide any additional resources and support that are needed."

At the direction of the Governor, the Texas Division of Emergency Management has deployed the following state resources to support winter weather response operations:

- Texas Department of Transportation: Winter weather roadway preparation equipment and response crews as well as road condition monitoring.
- Texas Highway Patrol, Texas Department of Public Safety: Courtesy patrols to assist stranded motorists along major travel corridors.
- Texas Military Department: Winter weather equipment and personnel to support Amarillo, Wichita Falls, Abilene, Fort Worth, and Waco to assist in stranded motorist operations.
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: Four wheel drive vehicles and personnel to assist with stranded motorists along major travel corridors.
- Texas A&M Forest Service: Motor graders and personnel to assist with snow/ice clearance and saw crews to assist with removal of downed trees.
- Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, Texas Task Force 1: Search and rescue equipment and teams.
- Public Utility Commission of Texas: Monitoring and reporting of power outages and monitoring of any issues impacting the power generation capability in the state.
- Texas Animal Health Commission: Response equipment and personnel to address livestock concerns due to frigid temperatures.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response.
3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 1 (Includes DDCs 4, 5, 6, and 22)

DDC 4B – Garland (Includes: Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro and Rockwall Counties)

TxDOT will activate their EOC at DalTran for 24-hour operations starting at 5:00 PM on Sunday, February 14. Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro, and Rockwall Counties have activated their EOC's to Level III and anticipate escalation to Level II Sunday. Almost all cities within DDC 4B Garland have activated their EOC's to Level III for monitoring. Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) will modify their service due to winter weather, effective Sunday, February 14 at 11:00 PM until 11:59 PM on Monday, February 15.

DDC 5 – Mt. Pleasant (Includes: Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River and Titus Counties)

Lamar County has opened four warming centers.

DDC 6 – Tyler (Includes: Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood Counties)

TxDOT is working to treat major roadways and has implemented a 24-hour operation schedule.

DDC 22 – Sherman (Includes: Cooke, Fannin and Grayson Counties)

Due to the ongoing impacts of winter weather and the forecast for another round of winter weather impacts on Sunday, February 14, DDEOC 22 is moving to a Level III (Increased Readiness/Monitoring) beginning at 10:00 AM Friday, February 12.

Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and DDC Pierce)

DDC 14 – Lufkin (Includes: Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity and Tyler Counties)

TXDPS Texas Highway Patrol State Troopers are monitoring the situation and prepared to respond to any requests for service. TxDOT has pre-treated roadways across the district and will go to 24-hour operations at 7:00 PM on Saturday, February 13.

Angelina County: Hudson ISD will be closed on February 15.

Houston County: Grapeland ISD will be closed on February 15.

Jasper County: Jasper ISD will be closed on February 15-19.

Newton County: Newton ISD will be closed on February 15-16. Burkeville ISD and Deweyville ISD will be closed on February 15-19.

Polk County: Corrigan-Camden ISD will be closed on February 15-16.

San Jacinto County: Coldspring ISD will be closed on February 15-19.

Shelby County: Center ISD will be closed on February 15-19.

Tyler County: Five ISDs in Tyler County will be closed on February 15-19.

DDC 15 – Beaumont (Includes: Hardin, Jefferson and Orange Counties)

DDEOC continues to monitor weather conditions. Sabine Pass ISD will be closed Monday, February 15 and Tuesday, February 16. The City of Bridge City will be closed Monday, February 15 and Tuesday, February 16.

DDC 16A – Houston (Includes: Chambers and Harris Counties)

The City of Houston will open the George R. Brown (GRB) Convention Center as an emergency shelter on Sunday, February 14. The site will be primarily for the homeless population. The City of Houston is coordinating with METRO to assist with the transportation to GRB. The Harris County Emergency Operations Center has been activated to Level III. Alief ISD, Crosby ISD, Goose Creek ISD, Houston ISD, Humble ISD, Klein ISD will be closed on Monday, February 15 and Tuesday, February 16 due to winter weather. Aldine ISD, Channelview ISD, Clear Creek ISD, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, Galena Park ISD and La Porte ISD will be closed on Tuesday, February 16 due to winter weather.

DDC 16B – Texas City (Includes: Brazoria and Galveston Counties)

Brazoria County: Due to icy weather, the Alvin Community College campus will be closed February 15 & 16. The City of Danbury and Danbury ISD will be closed February 15 & 16.

Galveston County: Galveston ISD, Dickinson ISD, and Texas City ISD will be closed February 15 & 16.

The Salvation Army in the City of Galveston is open for up to 62 people during the upcoming cold weather. The shelter will shift from emergency overnight only to 24-hour operations. COVID-19 guidelines will be followed, and screening for entry will take place at the facility.

DDC 16C – Conroe (Includes: Liberty, Montgomery, Waller, Walker Counties)

Walker County: Walker County issued a Disaster Declaration for Severe Winter Weather on Friday, February 12. Warming Shelter opened at the Walker County Storm Shelter in Huntsville.

Region 3 (Includes DDCs 19, 20, 21, and 24)

DDC 19 Laredo (Includes: Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb and Zapata Counties)

Starr County: Rio Grande City CISD will be closed for in-person instruction on Monday, February 15.

San Isidro ISD will be delayed until 10:00 AM on Monday, February 15.

DDC 20 – Corpus Christi (Includes: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties)

DDEOC 20 will be moving from a Level III to a Level II (virtual) escalated response conditions beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday, February 13.

Kleberg County: Kleberg County is opening the Human Services Building as a warm zone for residents from 10:00 AM Saturday, February 13 until 3:00 PM Monday, February 15.

Nueces County: The City of Corpus Christi is working with multiple local homeless agencies to ensure shelter, food, blankets, and clothing are provided for those in need during the severe cold and inclement weather. The Salvation Army has been identified as the lead agency in providing emergency shelter. If the Salvation Army exhausts their intake accommodations, individuals will be referred by the Salvation Army to other shelters expanding their intake.

The City also is working on an operational plan to offer daytime warming centers within the city limits.

Additionally, the City has engaged numerous state and local agencies, including the Texas Department of Emergency Management, Texas Department of Transportation, the Port of Corpus Christi, Nueces County, AEP of Texas, the Corpus Christi Council of Governments, the Downtown Management District, Christus Spohn, the Robstown Fire Department, and the American Red Cross.

DDC 21 – Weslaco (Includes: Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy Counties)

Cameron County: La Feria ISD, Point Isabel ISD, Rio Hondo ISD, San Benito ISD, and Santa Rosa ISD will be closed for in-person instruction on Monday, February 15.

Shelters are now open at the Ozanam Center in the City of Brownsville and Loaves and Fishes in the City of Harlingen.

Hidalgo County: Edcouch-Elsa ISD, Edinburg CISD, Donna ISD, Hidalgo ISD, La Joya ISD, La Villa ISD, Mercedes ISD, Monte Alto ISD, PJSA ISD, and Valley View ISD will be closed for in-person instruction on Monday, February 15.

Shelters are now open at the Lucero Del Norte Community Church and the Mercedes Safe Dome in the City of Mercedes, the Vanguard Academy Gymnasium in the City of Pharr, the Salvation Army in the City of McAllen, and the Mission Parks & Recreation in the City of Mission.

Willacy County: Lasara ISD, Lyford ISD, and San Perlita ISD will be closed for in-person instruction on Monday, February 15.

DDC 24 Del Rio (Includes: Dimmit, Edwards, Kinney, La Salle, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde and Zavala Counties)

DDC 24 will remain at Level III, Increased Readiness. DDC 24 is not anticipated to be activated.

Region 4 (Includes DDCs 8, 9, and 10)

DDC 10 – San Angelo (Includes: Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton and Tom Green Counties)

The warming center at the First Baptist Church in Junction remains open. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) continues to run sand trucks and plows.

Region 5 (Includes DDCs 1, 2, 3, and 7)

DDC 2 – Lubbock (Includes: Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Terry and Yoakum Counties)

Cold temperatures continue to be the main impact in the district overnight. No precipitation was received overnight, all roadways are all clear this morning. The DDEOC activated to Level III at 5:00 PM Friday. The City of Lubbock EOC activated at 5:00 AM Thursday. TxDOT crews continue patrolling and treating roadways throughout the district. The City of Lubbock street department is treating roadways within the city limits. There are four open warming shelters – Salvation Army Lubbock, Open-Door Lubbock, First Baptist Church Tahoka and First Baptist Church Wilson.

DDC 3 – Wichita Falls (Includes: Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Wichita, Wilbarger and Young Counties)

There are no road closures in the district. TxDOT continues to monitor and treat the roadways as needed.

DDC 7 – Abilene (Includes: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton and Taylor Counties)

Cold temperatures continue to impact the district and preparations for colder temperatures with added moisture in the coming days are underway. State agency partners have executed plans for stepping-up road maintenance, sheltering support, health programs, and other critical need initiatives. Local jurisdictions are preparing to assist stranded motorists, provide shelters or warming centers, address power outages, and address additional issues presented by winter storms. The City of Abilene EOC is activated to Level III.

Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

DDC 11 – Waco (Includes: Bosque, Falls, Freestone, Hill, Limestone and McLennan Counties)

McLennan County: There are two open warming centers in Waco/McLennan County.

DDC 12 – Austin (Includes: Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis and Williamson Counties)

Burnet County: City of Marble Falls activated its EOC at Level II to monitor conditions and prepare to respond to the winter weather. The EOC is virtual and will not be activated overnight.

Travis County:

City of Austin: The city has activated its cold-weather and shelter plan. Citizens are directed to call 311 for assistance.

DDC 17 – Victoria (Includes: Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, and Victoria Counties)

DDC 17 is activated to Level II (virtual). No agencies are required to report yet. Several state agencies are on standby.

DDC 23 – Killeen (Includes: Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba Counties)

TxDOT and local officials are reporting no significant roadway issues. All major roadways are open and unobstructed to travel. Some county rural roadways may have icy patches. TxDOT will continue to monitor roadway conditions within the district.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM): The State of Texas SOC remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions, with Daily Operations staff coordinating daily weather calls, processing disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), preparing Snapshots and the State SITREPs. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the Remote SOC, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners and various members of the public health community to assist with unmet needs and resources.

Contact was made with the Public Utility Commission of Texas to communicate with power providers to ensure adequate power generation capabilities were available to support the high demand for power due to frigid temperatures that will impact the state.

Texas Propane Gas Association was also contacted to ensure appropriate Hours of Service waivers were coordinated with the Texas Department of Public Safety to ensure propane delivery drivers could support the additional calls for propane service to support home heating needs.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife): County Extension Agents standing by to assist local jurisdictions as needed with livestock and crop issues due to winter weather impacts.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX): Standing by to provide search & rescue assistance as well as personnel to support winter weather operations as needed.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS): The Texas A&M Forest Service has mobilized equipment and personnel to support TxDOT with snow and ice removal on state roads. TFS Crews are currently assisting TxDOT offices in the Northwest, Central, West, and Panhandle Branches with six Motor Graders and support personnel. Two Saw Crews remain available and ready for response.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT is currently experiencing winter weather in a large portion of the State. Snow and ice are affecting the Lubbock, Abilene, San Angelo, Odessa, Wichita Falls, Brownwood, Austin, Waco, Fort Worth, Dallas, Tyler, and Paris Districts. Crews in these areas worked overnight patrolling/treating trouble areas and will maintain 24-hour shifts through the event. There are 969 roadway sections affected by snow/ice with no closures reported, however traffic is moving slowly. TxDOT District Office crews are pre-treating roadways for ice. Stay up to date by visiting: <https://drivetexas.org/>

Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS): TXDPS has state troopers patrolling impacted roadways assisting with stranded motorists due to icy road conditions.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD will support TXDPS Texas Highway Patrol (THP), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in protecting life and property during events of winter weather in Texas. TMD has activated 81 personnel to be staged in Amarillo, Wichita Falls, Dallas/Fort Worth, Abilene, and Waco in support of 21-0003 February Winter Weather 2021.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): Rostering available game wardens and four wheeled vehicles to assist with stranded motorist support. TPWD is prepared to support with 432 4x4 vehicles along with 48 boats statewide. Also,

TPWD Search and Rescue along with Aviation have been advised of the potential for severe weather and are maintaining a state of readiness.

Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC): Monitoring and communicating with power providers as well as tracking power outages due to winter weather. ERCOT has issued an Operating Condition Notice (OCN) for the potential of extreme cold weather which will run from February 11 through February 16.

Infrastructure

Power Outages: Source Eagle-I as of 05:00 AM

Region	# Affected
1	573
2	3,000
3	282
4	1,079
5	440
6	11,462
Total	16,839

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TAMUS TFS	Motor Graders	8	8	Assigned	DDC 7
TAMUS TFS	Motor Graders	4	2	Assigned	TxDOT Waco District
TAMUS TFS	Motor Graders	4	2	Assigned	Kimble/Menard Counties
TAMUS TFS	Motor Graders	8	5	Assigned	TxDOT Amarillo District
TAMUS TFS	Motor Graders	4	3	Assigned	TxDOT Childress District
TAMUS TFS	2 Saw Squads	TBD	TBD	Available	Statewide
TPWD	4X4 Vehicles		432	Available	
TPWD	Boats		48	Available	
TMD	Winter Weather Package	18	6	Activated	Amarillo
TMD	Winter Weather Package	18	5	Activated	Wichita Falls
TMD	Winter Weather Package	14	6	Activated	Dallas/Fort Worth
TMD	Winter Weather	15	6	Activated	Abilene

	Package				
TMD	Winter Weather Package	16	7	Activated	Waco

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at:
<https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>*

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